



Maryland Department of Disabilities - Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Michael Leone
410-554-9232
1-800-832-4827 v/tty

Allegany School Wins Accessible Web Design Award

Baltimore, MD (May 18, 2005) -- The Maryland Technology Assistance Program (MD TAP) will announce tomorrow the first place award for Accessible Web Design, sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Consortium on Accessible Information Technology in Education. The award will be presented May 19, 2005 to students at Calvary Christian Academy in Cresaptown, Md. Award recipients include: Amanda Cesnick, Sarah Stahl, Sarah Kreiger, Kristen Helmick, Megan Crump, Heather Dill, Jordan Carrier and Gabe Riffle, and Dan Thompson, Dean of Students at Calvary Christian Academy.

Evaluations for the Web Site Accessibility Contest were based on Section 508 guidelines of the Rehabilitation Act and guidelines of the World Wide Web Consortium's (W3C) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG). Contest entries were judged by staff at the Pennsylvania Initiative on Assistive Technology at the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pa.

The Mid-Atlantic Consortium on Accessible Information Technology is comprised of organizations that implement Assistive Technology Act projects in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia. The Consortium's activities include developing and disseminating materials and providing training and technical assistance to help education entities implement accessible information technology in their practices and curriculum.

The purpose of the annual Web Site Accessibility Contest is to increase awareness of the importance of web access for all users and to increase the interest of school districts in improving the accessibility of their web sites. Web site accessibility requires information on web sites to be available to all users, including individuals with disabilities who may need special technologies for access.

All K-12 schools in the Mid-Atlantic Consortium were welcome to submit web sites for review. The deadline for entries this year



♦ Empowering People ♦
410-767-3660 v/tty **1-800-637-4113** v/tty
*This document is available in
alternative formats upon request.*

-- more--

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor ~ Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor
Kristen Cox, Secretary ~ Diane McComb, Deputy Secretary

Accessible Web Design Award

was Feb. 15, 2005 for the 2004-2005 competition. Entries were judged in the following categories:

- elementary school level (student developed)
- middle school level (student developed)
- high school level (student developed)
- non-student sites – including district-wide sites

The Mid-Atlantic Consortium on Accessible Information Technology is coordinated by the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University, administered by TransCen, Inc., as part of the Mid-Atlantic ADA and IT Information Center. The Consortium is funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research of the U.S. Department of Education.

The Maryland Technology Assistance Program, a member of the Consortium, is a program of the Maryland Department of Disabilities (MDOD).

#